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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/255,256	02/22/99	TATSUTA	S 960716D/LH
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767 THIRD AVENUE
25TH FLOOR
NEW YORK NY 10017-2023

LM32/0105

EXAMINER

ROGERS, S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2724

DATE MAILED:

01/05/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

LM32/0105

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767 THIRD AVENUE
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/255,256	02/22/99	020	ROGERS, S	2724 01/05/00
First Named Applicant	TATSUTA, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION INFORMATION REPRODUCING SYSTEM, INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, AND INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2	960716D/LH	382-270.000	G58 UTILITY	NO	\$1210.00	04/05/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/255,256

Applicant(s)

Tatsuta

Examiner

Scott Rogers

Group Art Unit

2724



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to response filed Oct. 26, 1999.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-32 and 36-43.

☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☒ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) 08/764,136.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant **MUST** submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 4.

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

SCOTT ROGERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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Election/Restriction

Claims 21-32 and 36-43 are directed to an allowable information reproducing system and apparatus. Claims 29-32 and 40-43 non-elected with traverse as a result of the restriction requirement have been rejoined. Claims hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104 have been found allowable.

Since all claims subject to the restricted under 37 CFR 1.142 have been rejoined, the restriction requirement made in Paper No. 4 is hereby withdrawn.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests in the combinations set forth by claims 21-28 and 36-39, generating binarized data from the image signal of read code data by dividing the dot code into plural regions and calculating the threshold value for binarization in accordance with the characteristic amount for binarization extracted in each region.

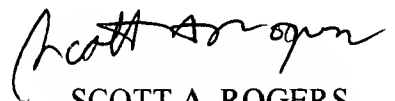
The prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests in the combinations set forth by claims 21-28 and 36-39, generating binarized data from the image signal of read code data by detecting maximum and minimum luminance values from a predetermined detection region, detecting if a code exists in the detection region, replacing the minimum value in the detection region with the minimum value of the adjacent detection region when a dot code is not

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detected, and calculating the threshold value for binarization from the detected or replaced minimum value in accordance with an interior division ratio.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this application should be directed to **Scott Rogers** at **(703) 305-4726** or Internet e-mail address **scott.rogers@uspto.gov**. The group receptionist telephone number is **(703) 305-3900**.



SCOTT A. ROGERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2724

December 30, 1999